

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Shigeyuki Akimoto et al.)	Group Art Unit: 2624
Application No.: 10/556,916)	Examiner: Vanchy Jr., Michael J.
Filed: November 15, 2005)	Confirmation No.: 1621
For: OUTER SURFACE-INSPECTING)	
METHOD, MASTER PATTERNS USED)	
THEREFOR, AND OUTER SURFACE-)	
INSPECTING APPARATUS EQUIPPED)	
WITH SUCH A MASTER PATTERN)	

SECOND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed. However, copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed since it is no longer required. Also enclosed is a copy of European Search Report issued in corresponding European Patent Application No. 04 73 3426, dated January 15, 2008

The documents are being submitted after a first Office Action on the merits but prior to the closing of prosecution, therefore under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), a statement is enclosed.

I, the undersigned, hereby state in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement contains information which is not in the English language but was cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. In accordance with MPEP § 609 III A(3), an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted herewith.


To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: 4-7-2008

By: 
William C. Rowland
Registration No. 30888

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620